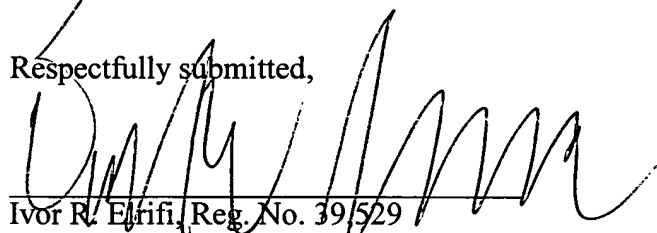


## REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant amendment, Applicants submit the abstract on a page separated from the remaining amendments to the specification.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is requested. A petition for extension of time accompanies this response. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 22058-554).

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: March 23, 2005

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529  
David E. Johnson, Reg. No. 41,874  
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,  
GLOVSKY and POPEO, P.C.  
One Financial Center  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111  
Tel: (617) 542-6000  
Fax: (617) 542-2241